

# Possible Test of the GUT Relation between $M_1$ and $M_2$ in Electron-Photon Scattering

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## Abstract

We investigate associated production of selectrons and the lightest neutralino (LSP) in the process  $e^-\gamma \longrightarrow \tilde{\chi}_1^0 \tilde{e}_{L/R}^-$  with the selectron subsequently decaying into an electron and the LSP. Total cross sections and various polarization asymmetries are calculated for photons produced by Compton backscattering of a polarized laser beam at an  $e^+e^-$  linear collider with CMS energy  $\sqrt{s_{ee}} = 500$  GeV and with polarized beams. The total cross section and in particular the polarization asymmetries show a characteristic dependence on the gaugino mass parameter  $M_1$ . Therefore this process is suitable for testing the GUT relation  $M_1 = M_2 \cdot \frac{5}{3} \tan^2 \theta_W$ .

## 1 Introduction

The search for supersymmetry (SUSY) [1] is one of the most important goals of a future  $e^+e^-$  linear collider (LC) in the energy range between 500 GeV and 1000 GeV [2]. In addition to the  $e^+e^-$  option the  $e^-\gamma$  mode is also technically realizable with high luminosity polarized photon beams obtained by backscattering of intensive laser pulses off the electron beam [3, 4, 5]. Associated production of selectrons with the lightest neutralino  $\tilde{\chi}_1^0$  (assumed to be the LSP) in  $e^-\gamma$  collisions allows to probe heavy selectrons beyond the kinematical limit of selectron pair production in  $e^+e^-$  annihilation. Further associated production of selectrons and gaugino-like neutralinos provides us with the possibility to study the electron-selectron-neutralino couplings complementary to  $e^+e^-$  annihilation.

In the present paper we study the associated production  $e^-\gamma \longrightarrow \tilde{\chi}_1^0 \tilde{e}_{L/R}^-$  with polarized beams and the subsequent direct leptonic decay  $\tilde{e}_{L/R}^- \longrightarrow \tilde{\chi}_1^0 e^-$ . The beam polarization is chosen suitably to optimize cross sections and polarization asymmetries. The signal is a single electron with high transverse momentum  $p_T$ . We do not consider cascade decays of heavy selectrons, which may yield a similar single electron signal with, however, a less pronounced  $p_T$  [5]. We also refrain from a discussion of the background.

The calculations are done in the Minimal Supersymmetric Standard Model (MSSM). The masses and couplings of the neutralinos depend on the gaugino mass

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parameters  $M_1$  and  $M_2$ , the higgsino mass parameter  $\mu$  and the ratio  $\tan\beta$  of the two Higgs vacuum expectation values. The parameters  $M_2$ ,  $\mu$  and  $\tan\beta$  can in principle be determined by chargino production alone [6]. For the gaugino mass parameters usually the GUT relation  $M_1 = M_2 \cdot \frac{5}{3} \tan^2\theta_W$  is assumed. A precise determination of  $M_1$  is, however, only possible in the neutralino sector [7].

In the present paper we investigate if associated production of selectrons and the LSP  $\tilde{\chi}_1^0$  is suitable as a test for this relation. We therefore study the influence of the gaugino mass parameter  $M_1$  on the total cross section and on polarization asymmetries for different selectron masses.

## 2 Cross Sections and Polarization Asymmetries

The production cross section  $\sigma_P^{L/R}(s_{e\gamma})$  for the process  $e^-\gamma \longrightarrow \tilde{\chi}_1^0 \tilde{e}_{L/R}^-$  proceeds via electron exchange in the s-channel and selectron exchange in the t-channel. The electron-selectron-LSP couplings

$$f_{e1}^L = -\sqrt{2} \left[ \frac{1}{\cos\theta_W} \left( -\frac{1}{2} + \sin^2\theta_W \right) N_{12} - \sin\theta_W N_{11} \right], \quad (1)$$

$$f_{e1}^R = \sqrt{2} \sin\theta_W [\tan\theta_W N_{12}^* - N_{11}^*] \quad (2)$$

for left and right selectrons with masses  $m_{\tilde{e}_L}$  and  $m_{\tilde{e}_R}$  depend on the photino component  $N_{11}$  and the zino component  $N_{12}$  of the LSP [1]. For an electron beam with longitudinal polarization  $P_e$  the cross sections  $\sigma_P^L$  and  $\sigma_P^R$  are proportional to  $(1 - P_e)$  and  $(1 + P_e)$ , respectively. For special cases the cross sections are given in [5] and [8], the complete analytical expressions for the differential and the total cross section for polarized beams will be given in a forthcoming paper [9].

In the narrow width approximation one obtains the total cross section  $\sigma_{e\gamma}^{L/R}$  for the combined process of  $\tilde{e}_{L/R}^- \tilde{\chi}_1^0$  production and the subsequent leptonic decay  $\tilde{e}_{L/R}^- \longrightarrow e^- \tilde{\chi}_1^0$  by multiplying the production cross section with the leptonic branching ratio:

$$\sigma_{e\gamma}^{L/R}(s_{e\gamma}) = \sigma_P^{L/R}(s_{e\gamma}) \cdot \text{Br}(\tilde{e}_{L/R}^- \longrightarrow e^- \tilde{\chi}_1^0). \quad (3)$$

The LSP-selectron-electron coupling  $f_{e1}^{L/R}$  appears in the production amplitudes as well as in the decay amplitude, so that the total cross section  $\sigma_{e\gamma}^{L/R}(s_{e\gamma})$  is proportional to  $(f_{e1}^{L/R})^4$ .

The photon beam is assumed to be produced by Compton backscattering of circularly polarized laser photons (polarization  $\lambda_L$ ) off longitudinally polarized electrons (polarization  $\lambda_e$ ). The energy spectrum  $P(y)$  and the mean helicity  $\lambda(y)$  of the high energy photons are given in [4, 5, 10]. The ratio  $y = E_\gamma/E_e$  of the photon energy  $E_\gamma$  and the energy of the converted electron beam  $E_e$  is confined to  $y \lesssim 0.83$  [3]. For  $y > 0.83$   $e^+e^-$  pairs can be produced via scattering of laser photons and backscattered photons, so that the flux of high energetic photons drops considerably. To obtain the total cross section  $\sigma_{ee}^{L/R}(s_{ee}, P_e, \lambda_e, \lambda_L)$  for the combined process in the laboratory frame ( $e^+e^-$  CMS) one has to convolute the total cross section

$\sigma_{e\gamma}^{L/R}(s_{e\gamma})$  in the  $e\gamma$  CMS with the energy distribution  $P(y)$  and the mean helicity  $\lambda(y)$  of the backscattered photon beam [11]:

$$\sigma_{ee}^{L/R} = \int dy P(y) \hat{\sigma}_{e\gamma}^{L/R}(s_{e\gamma} = ys_{ee}), \quad (4)$$

$$\begin{aligned} \hat{\sigma}_{e\gamma}^{L/R} &= \frac{1}{2} (1 + \lambda(y)) (\sigma_{e\gamma}^{L/R})^+ + \frac{1}{2} (1 - \lambda(y)) (\sigma_{e\gamma}^{L/R})^- \\ &= \sigma_{e\gamma}^{L/R} (1 + \lambda(y) A_c^{L/R}). \end{aligned} \quad (5)$$

In eq. (5)  $(\sigma_{e\gamma}^{L/R})^{+/-}$  are the total cross sections for a completely right (left) circular polarized photon beam whereas  $\sigma_{e\gamma}^{L/R}$  is the cross section for unpolarized photons.

$$A_c^{L/R} = \frac{(\sigma_{e\gamma}^{L/R})^+ - (\sigma_{e\gamma}^{L/R})^-}{(\sigma_{e\gamma}^{L/R})^+ + (\sigma_{e\gamma}^{L/R})^-} \quad (6)$$

is the polarization asymmetry for circular polarized photons.

Since the production and decay of right and left selectrons lead to the same final state we add both cross sections and obtain

$$\sigma_{ee} = \sigma_{ee}^L + \sigma_{ee}^R. \quad (7)$$

We consider two types of polarization asymmetries of the convoluted cross section. For the first one we flip the electron polarization  $P_e$  and fix the polarization  $\lambda_L$  of the laser beam and the polarization  $\lambda_e$  of the converted electron beam:

$$A_{P_e} = \frac{\sigma_{ee}(s_{ee}, P_e, \lambda_e, \lambda_L) - \sigma_{ee}(s_{ee}, -P_e, \lambda_e, \lambda_L)}{\sigma_{ee}(s_{ee}, P_e, \lambda_e, \lambda_L) + \sigma_{ee}(s_{ee}, -P_e, \lambda_e, \lambda_L)}. \quad (8)$$

If we split off from  $\sigma_{ee}^{L/R}$  the dependence of beam polarization  $(1 \mp P_e)$

$$\sigma_{ee}(s_{ee}, P_e, \lambda_e, \lambda_L) = (1 - P_e) \tilde{\sigma}_{ee}^L + (1 + P_e) \tilde{\sigma}_{ee}^R, \quad (9)$$

we obtain

$$A_{P_e} = P_e \cdot \frac{\tilde{\sigma}_{ee}^R - \tilde{\sigma}_{ee}^L}{\tilde{\sigma}_{ee}^R + \tilde{\sigma}_{ee}^L}. \quad (10)$$

Here  $\tilde{\sigma}_{ee}^R$  ( $\tilde{\sigma}_{ee}^L$ ) is the cross section for production of right (left) selectrons with an unpolarized electron beam ( $P_e = 0$ ) and their subsequent leptonic decay.

As a second asymmetry we discuss that with respect to the polarization  $\lambda_L$  of the laser beam:

$$A_{\lambda_L} = \frac{\sigma_{ee}(s_{ee}, P_e, \lambda_e, \lambda_L) - \sigma_{ee}(s_{ee}, P_e, \lambda_e, -\lambda_L)}{\sigma_{ee}(s_{ee}, P_e, \lambda_e, \lambda_L) + \sigma_{ee}(s_{ee}, P_e, \lambda_e, -\lambda_L)}. \quad (11)$$

### 3 Numerical Results

In the following numerical analysis we study the total cross section  $\sigma_{ee}^{(L/R)}$  and the polarization asymmetries  $A_{P_e}$  and  $A_{\lambda_L}$  for  $\sqrt{s_{ee}} = 500$  GeV. For the MSSM parameters we choose  $M_2 = 152$  GeV,  $\mu = 316$  GeV,  $\tan \beta = 3$  with  $M_1$  varying between  $M_1 = 40$  GeV and  $M_1 = 300$  GeV. The region  $M_1 < 40$  GeV is excluded by assuming a lower limit of 35 GeV for the LSP mass  $m_{\tilde{\chi}_1^0}$ . In the figures the excluded region is shaded. For  $M_1 = 78.7$  GeV this corresponds to the DESY/ECFA reference scenario for the Linear Collider [12], which implies the GUT relation  $M_1 = M_2 \cdot \frac{5}{3} \tan^2 \theta_W$ .

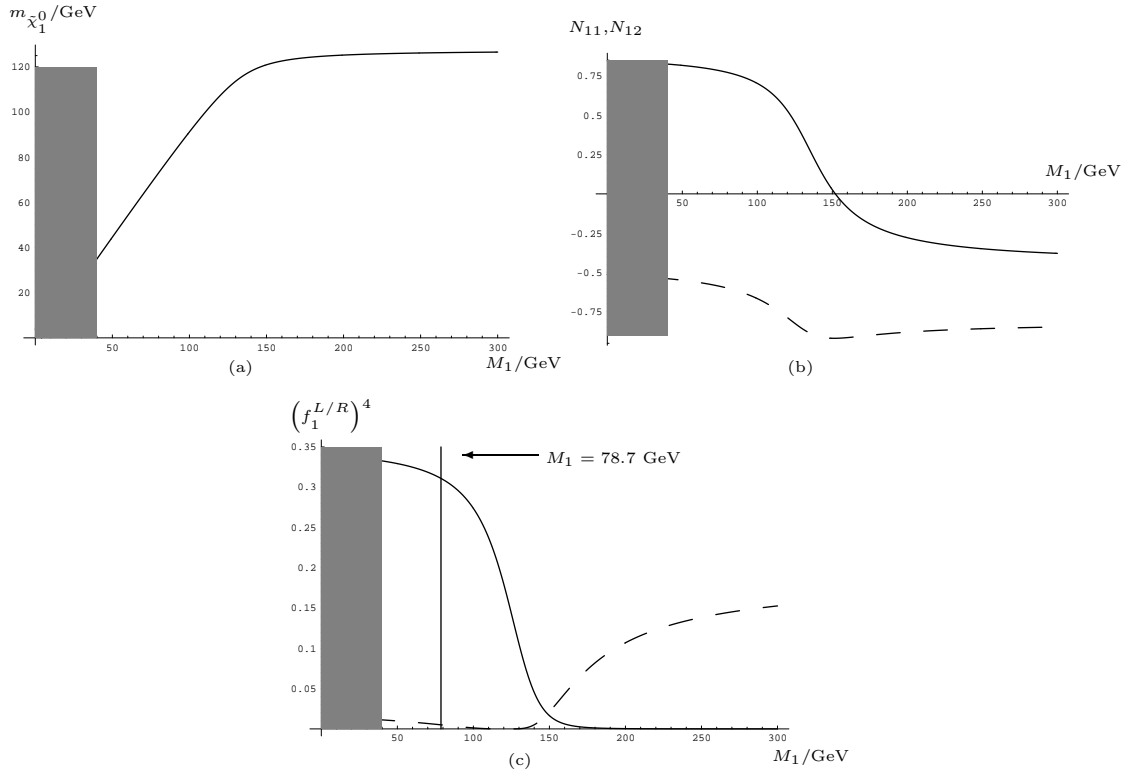


Figure 1: (a)  $M_1$ -dependence of the LSP mass  $m_{\tilde{\chi}_1^0}$ ; (b)  $M_1$ -dependence of the photino component  $N_{11}$  (solid line) and of the zino component  $N_{12}$  (dashed line) of the LSP; (c)  $M_1$ -dependence of the couplings  $(f_{e1}^R)^4$  (solid line) and  $(f_{e1}^L)^4$  (dashed line).

For this set of parameters one has  $35 \text{ GeV} < m_{\tilde{\chi}_1^0} < m_{\tilde{\chi}_1^\pm} < 128 \text{ GeV}$ . Fig. 1a shows that in the region  $40 \text{ GeV} < M_1 < 150 \text{ GeV}$  the LSP mass depends very strongly on  $M_1$ , varying between  $m_{\tilde{\chi}_1^0} = 35 \text{ GeV}$  for  $M_1 = 40 \text{ GeV}$  and  $m_{\tilde{\chi}_1^0} = 121 \text{ GeV}$  for  $M_1 = 150 \text{ GeV}$  whereas for  $M_1 > 150 \text{ GeV}$  the mass of the LSP is practically independent of  $M_1$ . In the whole  $M_1$  region the LSP is gaugino-like (fig. 1b). At  $M_1 = M_2$  the photino component  $N_{11}$  changes its sign which leads to completely different strength of the couplings  $f_{e1}^{L/R}$  in the regions  $M_1 > 150 \text{ GeV}$  and  $M_1 < 150 \text{ GeV}$  (fig. 1c). For the selectron masses we choose two examples:  $m_{\tilde{e}_L} = 179.3 \text{ GeV}$ ,  $m_{\tilde{e}_R} = 137.7 \text{ GeV}$  corresponding to the value  $m_0 = 110 \text{ GeV}$  of the common scalar

mass at the GUT scale and  $m_{\tilde{e}_L} = 350.0$  GeV,  $m_{\tilde{e}_R} = 330.5$  GeV corresponding to  $m_0 = 320$  GeV. In the second case selectron pair production at an  $e^+e^-$  collider with  $\sqrt{s_{ee}} = 500$  GeV is kinematically forbidden.

For the integrated luminosity of the  $e\gamma$  machine we assume  $\int \mathcal{L} = 100 \text{ fb}^{-1}$  so that cross sections of a few fb should be measurable.

Fig. 1c shows that in our scenario also the electron-selectron-LSP couplings strongly depend on  $M_1$ . For  $M_1 < 150$  GeV the coupling of the right selectron  $f_{e1}^R$  dominates whereas for  $M_1 > 150$  GeV that of the left selectron  $f_{e1}^L$  is the stronger one. Similarly the total cross sections  $\sigma_{ee}^{L/R}$  depicted in fig. 2a for a CMS energy  $\sqrt{s_{ee}} = 500$  GeV and for unpolarized beams ( $P_e = \lambda_L = \lambda_e = 0$ ) have a pronounced  $M_1$ -dependence. Comparing fig. 2a for the cross sections with fig. 1c for the couplings  $f_{e1}^{L/R}$  one can see that even in the region  $40 \text{ GeV} < M_1 < 150 \text{ GeV}$  the influence of the additional  $M_1$ -dependence of the LSP mass (fig. 1a) is weak so that the total cross sections reflect essentially the  $M_1$ -dependence of the couplings.

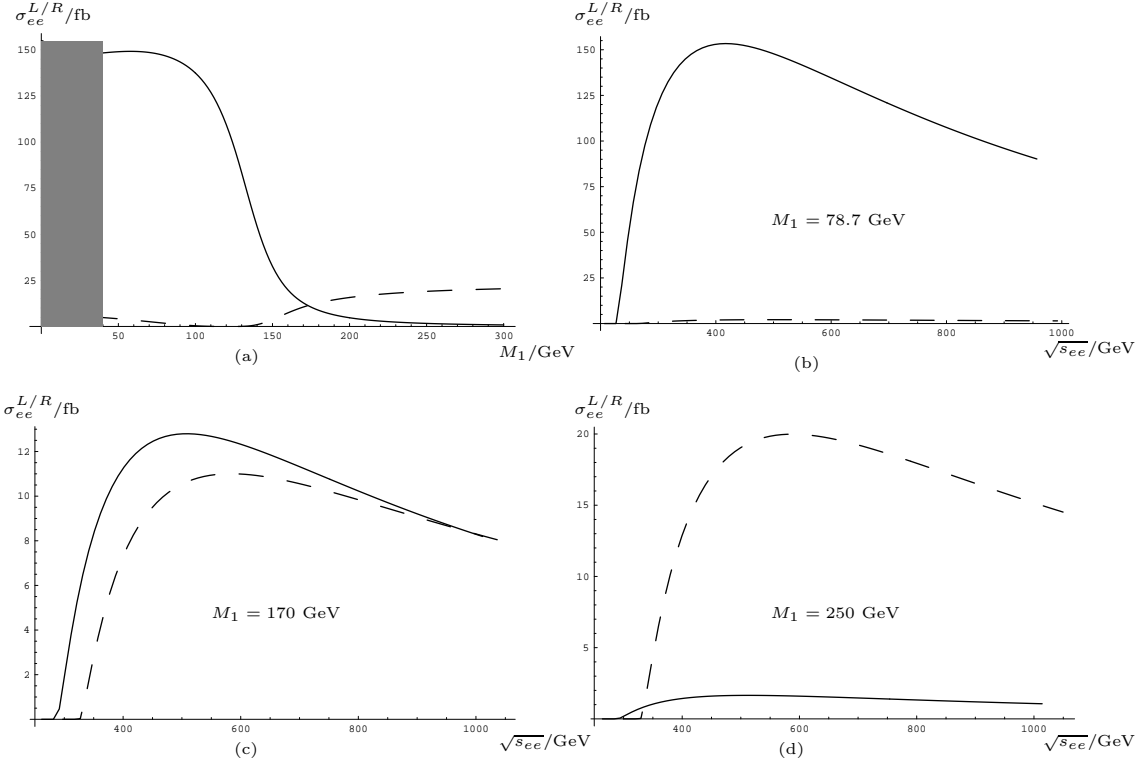


Figure 2: Total cross sections  $\sigma_{ee}^R$  (solid lines) and  $\sigma_{ee}^L$  (dashed lines) for  $m_{\tilde{e}_R} = 137.7$  GeV,  $m_{\tilde{e}_L} = 179.3$  GeV and unpolarized electron and photon beams ( $P_e = \lambda_e = \lambda_L = 0$ ); (a)  $M_1$ -dependence of  $\sigma_{ee}^{L/R}$  for  $\sqrt{s_{ee}} = 500$  GeV; Energy dependence of  $\sigma_{ee}^{L/R}$  for (b)  $M_1 = 78.7$  GeV, (c)  $M_1 = 170$  GeV and (d)  $M_1 = 250$  GeV.

As a consequence of the somewhat higher mass the cross section for production and decay of  $\tilde{e}_L$  is additionally suppressed compared to that for  $\tilde{e}_R$ . Therefore in fig. 2a the crossing of the cross sections is at a somewhat higher value of  $M_1 \sim 175$  GeV than that of the couplings at  $M_1 \sim 150$  GeV in fig. 1c. For  $M_1 < 175$  GeV

the production of  $\tilde{e}_R$  dominates whereas for  $M_1 > 175$  GeV that of  $\tilde{e}_L$  dominates with, however, much smaller cross sections. Fig. 2a shows the strong variation of the cross section  $\sigma_{ee}^R$  with  $M_1$ . If we assume that a cross section  $\sigma_{ee}^R = 100$  fb has been measured with an error of  $\pm 5\%$  this is compatible with  $M_1$  between 122 GeV and 126 GeV.

For an unpolarized electron beam ( $P_e = 0$ ) polarization of the laser beam and of the converted electrons essentially changes only the magnitude of the cross sections by a maximal factor between 0.7 and 1.3. As we have checked numerically the  $M_1$  dependence is very similar to that given in fig. 2a.

Fig. 2b - 2d exhibit the energy dependence of the total cross section for three different values of  $M_1$ : the GUT value  $M_1 = 78.7$  GeV (fig. 2b) and two higher values  $M_1 = 170$  GeV (fig. 2c) and  $M_1 = 250$  GeV (fig. 2d). For a polarization of the electron beam  $P_e = +0.9$  ( $P_e = -0.9$ ) the cross section for production and decay of left (right) selectrons is reduced and that for right (left) selectrons is enhanced.

In fig. 3a the asymmetry  $A_{P_e}$  defined in eq. (10) is shown for unpolarized converted electrons ( $\lambda_e = 0$ ), unpolarized laser photons ( $\lambda_L = 0$ ) and electron polarization  $P_e = \pm 0.9$ . In our scenario the dependence of  $A_{P_e}$  on  $\lambda_L$  and on  $\lambda_e$  turns out to be negligible. The  $M_1$ -dependence of  $A_{P_e}$  is as expected from that of the cross sections (fig. 2). Since for  $M_1 < 175$  GeV ( $M_1 > 175$  GeV) the production of  $\tilde{e}_R$  ( $\tilde{e}_L$ ) dominates we obtain large positive asymmetries (large negative asymmetries) for  $M_1 < 175$  GeV ( $M_1 > 175$  GeV). For  $40$  GeV  $< M_1 < 142$  GeV the asymmetry  $A_{P_e}$  is larger than 0.85 and nearly independent of  $M_1$ . In this region, however, the LSP mass (fig. 1a) and the total cross section (fig. 2) depend strongly on  $M_1$ . For  $M_1 > 205$  GeV the asymmetry increases up to large negative values between  $A_{P_e} = -0.5$  for  $M_1 = 205$  GeV and  $A_{P_e} = -0.82$  for  $M_1 = 300$  GeV with, however, rather small cross sections  $< 38$  fb. For  $142$  GeV  $< M_1 < 205$  GeV the asymmetry  $A_{P_e}$  shows a strong variation with  $M_1$ . If we assume that for instance an asymmetry  $A_{P_e} = 0.5 \pm 5\%$  has been measured this is compatible with  $M_1$  in the narrow region between 158 GeV and 160 GeV.

Additional informations on the value of  $M_1$  can be obtained if the laser beam and the converted electrons are polarized. In fig. 3b we show the  $M_1$ -dependence of the total cross section  $\sigma_{ee}$  for  $P_e = 0.9$  and  $\lambda_e = +1$ . For  $\lambda_L = -1$  ambiguities exist in the region  $40$  GeV  $< M_1 < 120$  GeV and for  $M_1 > 180$  GeV the dependence on  $M_1$  is rather weak. For  $120$  GeV  $< M_1 < 180$  GeV however this cross section shows a strong variation with  $M_1$ . For  $\lambda_L = +1$  the cross section again shows ambiguities in the region  $40$  GeV  $< M_1 < 108$  GeV and is nearly independent on  $M_1$  for  $M_1 > 180$  GeV. The interval  $108$  GeV  $< M_1 < 180$  GeV, where the cross section is sensitive to  $M_1$  is however larger than for  $\lambda_L = -1$ . If we assume that a cross section  $\sigma_{ee} = 250$  fb  $\pm 5\%$  has been measured this is compatible with  $M_1$  between 122 GeV and 127 GeV. In the region  $60$  GeV  $< M_1 < 300$  GeV the asymmetry  $A_{\lambda_L}$  (eq. (11)) depicted in fig. 3c for  $P_e = 0.9$  and  $\lambda_e = +1$  is nearly linearly dependent on  $M_1$  so that it should be possible to determine  $M_1$  uniquely in the region  $60$  GeV  $< M_1 < 190$  GeV. An asymmetry  $A_{\lambda_L} = 0.25 \pm 5\%$  would be compatible with  $M_1$  between 116 GeV and 132 GeV according to fig. 3c. In the region  $M_1 > 190$  GeV the cross sections are smaller than 16 fb.

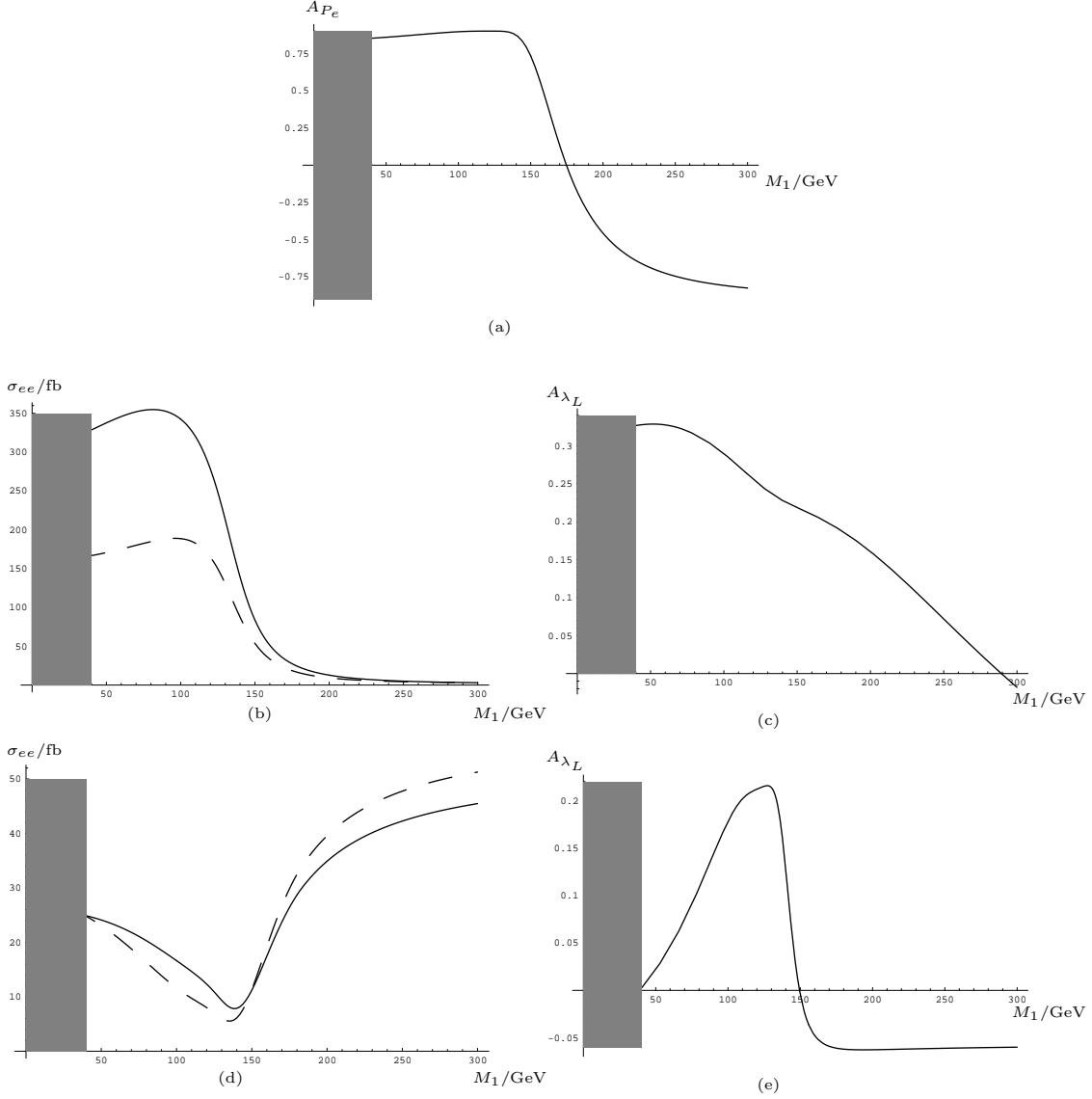


Figure 3: Total cross section  $\sigma_{ee} = \sigma_{ee}^L + \sigma_{ee}^R$  and polarization asymmetries for  $m_{\tilde{e}_R} = 137.7$  GeV and  $m_{\tilde{e}_L} = 179.3$  GeV; (a)  $M_1$ -dependence of the asymmetry  $A_{P_e}$  for  $P_e = \pm 0.9$  and  $\lambda_e = \lambda_L = 0$ ; (b)  $M_1$ -dependence of  $\sigma_{ee}$  for  $P_e = 0.9$ ,  $\lambda_e = 1$ ,  $\lambda_L = +1$  (solid line) and for  $P_e = 0.9$ ,  $\lambda_e = 1$ ,  $\lambda_L = -1$  (dashed line); (c)  $M_1$ -dependence of the asymmetry  $A_{\lambda_L}$  for  $P_e = 0.9$ ,  $\lambda_e = +1$  and  $\lambda_L = \pm 1$ ; (d)  $M_1$ -dependence of  $\sigma_{ee}$  for  $P_e = -0.9$ ,  $\lambda_e = -1$ ,  $\lambda_L = +1$  (solid line) and for  $P_e = -0.9$ ,  $\lambda_e = -1$ ,  $\lambda_L = -1$  (dashed line); (e)  $M_1$ -dependence of the asymmetry  $A_{\lambda_L}$  for  $P_e = -0.9$ ,  $\lambda_e = -1$  and  $\lambda_L = \pm 1$ .

The cross section  $\sigma_{ee}$  and the asymmetry  $A_{\lambda_L}$  are depicted in fig. 3d, e for the polarization configuration  $P_e = -0.9$  and  $\lambda_e = -1$ . For  $\lambda_L = -1$  the total cross section has ambiguities in the region  $40 \text{ GeV} < M_1 < 167 \text{ GeV}$  and for  $\lambda_L = +1$  in the region  $40 \text{ GeV} < M_1 < 173 \text{ GeV}$ . For  $M_1 > 173 \text{ GeV}$  one notices a strong variation of the cross section for  $\lambda_L = \pm 1$ . As can be seen from fig. 3d with  $\lambda_L = +1$

a cross section  $\sigma_{ee} = 35 \text{ fb} \pm 5\%$  is compatible with  $M_1$  between 193 GeV and 209 GeV. For this polarization configuration the asymmetry  $A_{\lambda_L}$  (fig. 3e) grows practically linearly between  $M_1 = 40$  GeV and  $M_1 = 126$  GeV and is very sensitive on  $M_1$  but shows ambiguities between  $M_1 = 40$  GeV and  $M_1 = 150$  GeV. If we assume that an asymmetry  $A_{\lambda_L} = 0.15 \pm 5\%$  has been measured this is compatible with  $M_1$  between 89 GeV and 94 GeV or between 138 GeV and 140 GeV according to fig. 3e. One can distinguish between these two regions via the cross section for  $\lambda_L = +1$  depicted in fig. 3d because one expects 18-19 fb for  $M_1$  between 89 GeV and 94 GeV and 7-8 fb for  $M_1$  between 138 GeV and 140 GeV. For  $M_1 > 170$  GeV the asymmetry is nearly constant  $A_{\lambda_L} \sim -0.07$ .

To sum up: for unpolarized laser beams ( $\lambda_L = 0$ ) and converted electrons ( $\lambda_e = 0$ ) the polarization asymmetry  $A_{P_e}$  exhibits a pronounced  $M_1$  dependence in the region  $142 \text{ GeV} < M_1 < 205 \text{ GeV}$ . For the polarization configuration  $P_e = 0.9$ ,  $\lambda_e = +1$  and  $\lambda_L = \pm 1$  the cross sections  $\sigma_{ee}$  and the polarization asymmetry  $A_{\lambda_L}$  are sensitive to  $M_1$  in the region  $60 \text{ GeV} < M_1 < 190 \text{ GeV}$ . Finally for  $P_e = -0.9$ ,  $\lambda_e = -1$  and  $\lambda_L = \pm 1$  these observables show a strong  $M_1$  dependence in the region  $40 \text{ GeV} < M_1 < 300 \text{ GeV}$ .

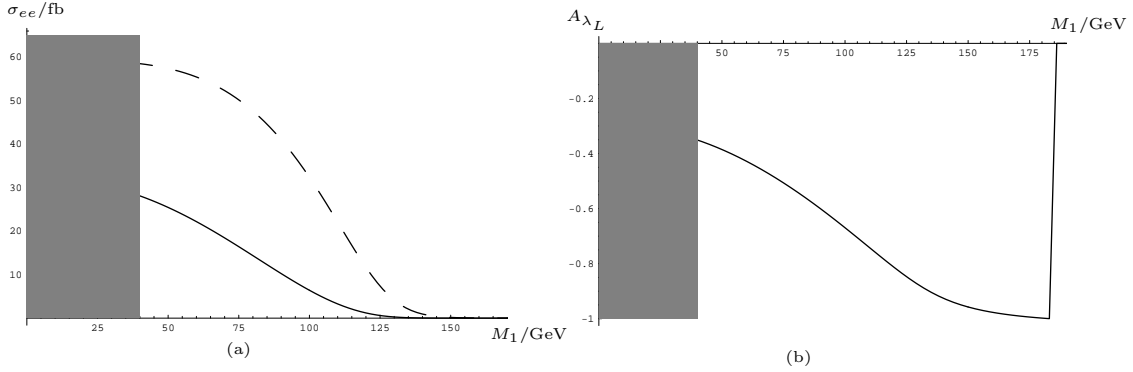


Figure 4: Total cross section  $\sigma_{ee} = \sigma_{ee}^L + \sigma_{ee}^R$  and polarization asymmetry  $A_{\lambda_L}$  for  $m_{\tilde{e}_R} = 330.5 \text{ GeV}$  and  $m_{\tilde{e}_L} = 350.0 \text{ GeV}$ ; (a)  $M_1$ -dependence of  $\sigma_{ee}$  for  $P_e = 0.9$ ,  $\lambda_e = 1$ ,  $\lambda_L = +1$  (solid line) and  $P_e = 0.9$ ,  $\lambda_e = 1$ ,  $\lambda_L = -1$  (dashed line); (b)  $M_1$ -dependence of  $A_{\lambda_L}$  for  $P_e = 0.9$ ,  $\lambda_e = +1$  and  $\lambda_L = \pm 1$ .

We choose as a second example higher selectron masses  $m_{\tilde{e}_L} = 350.0 \text{ GeV}$  and  $m_{\tilde{e}_R} = 330.5 \text{ GeV}$  corresponding to  $m_0 = 320 \text{ GeV}$ . Then for  $\sqrt{s_{ee}} = 500 \text{ GeV}$  selectron pair production in  $e^+e^-$  annihilation is forbidden, whereas single selectron production in  $e^-\gamma \rightarrow \tilde{\chi}_1^0 \tilde{e}_{L/R}^-$  is still possible, provided that  $\sqrt{s_{e\gamma}} > m_{\tilde{e}_{L/R}}^- + m_{\tilde{\chi}_1^0}$  where  $\sqrt{s_{e\gamma}} \sim 0.91 \cdot \sqrt{s_{ee}}$  is the energy of the hardest photon obtained by Compton backscattering [11]. Now the kinematical accessible  $M_1$  region is confined to  $M_1 < 184 \text{ GeV}$  ( $m_{\tilde{\chi}_1^0} < 124.6 \text{ GeV}$ ). In fig. 4a,b we show the total cross section and the asymmetry  $A_{\lambda_L}$  for  $P_e = 0.9$ ,  $\lambda_e = +1$  and  $\lambda_L = \pm 1$ . For  $\lambda_L = +1$  the cross section depends nearly linearly on  $M_1$  in the region  $40 \text{ GeV} < M_1 < 115 \text{ GeV}$ . For  $M_1 > 115 \text{ GeV}$  the cross section is smaller than 2 fb. The cross section for  $\lambda_L = -1$  is higher and more sensitive to  $M_1$  between  $40 \text{ GeV} < M_1 < 135 \text{ GeV}$ . If



we assume for example that a cross section  $\sigma_{ee} = 45 \text{ fb} \pm 5\%$  has been measured this is compatible with  $M_1$  between 80 GeV and 88 GeV. Also the polarization asymmetry  $A_{\lambda_L}$  strongly depends on  $M_1$  in the whole region. According to fig. 4b an asymmetry  $A_{\lambda_L} = -0.7 \pm 5\%$  would be compatible with  $M_1$  between 99 GeV and 109 GeV. The polarization asymmetry  $A_{P_e}$  for this scenario is between 0.85 and 0.9 and depends only weakly on  $M_1$ . Also the polarization configuration  $P_e = -0.9$ ,  $\lambda_e = -1$  and  $\lambda_L = \pm 1$  is not shown because the cross sections are smaller than 2 fb. Thus for the case of high selectron masses and polarization configuration  $P_e = 0.9$ ,  $\lambda_e = +1$  and  $\lambda_L = \pm 1$  both the cross section and the asymmetry  $A_{\lambda_L}$  can be helpful for determining  $M_1$  in the greatest part ( $40 \text{ GeV} < M_1 < 135 \text{ GeV}$ ) of the kinematical accessible region  $M_1 < 184 \text{ GeV}$ .

## 4 Conclusion

We have demonstrated that associated selectron - LSP production with subsequent leptonic decay of the selectron  $e^- \gamma \longrightarrow \tilde{\chi}_1^0 \tilde{e}_{L/R}^- \longrightarrow e^- \tilde{\chi}_1^0 \tilde{\chi}_1^0$  at a  $\sqrt{s_{ee}} = 500 \text{ GeV}$  linear collider in the  $e\gamma$  mode should allow to test for a gaugino-like LSP the GUT relation  $M_1 = M_2 \cdot \frac{5}{3} \tan^2 \theta_W$  between the MSSM gaugino mass parameters. The polarization  $P_e$  of the electron beam helps to enlarge the production cross section for left or right selectrons. For suitably polarized electron beams and laser photons the total cross section  $\sigma_{ee}$  and the polarization asymmetries  $A_{P_e}$  and  $A_{\lambda_L}$  are very sensitive to the gaugino mass parameter  $M_1$  in the whole investigated region between 40 GeV and 300 GeV. For high selectron masses  $m_{\tilde{e}_{L/R}}$  the accessible  $M_1$  region is kinematically constrained. The optimal polarization configuration depends on the values of the selectron masses. For realistic predictions a complete MC study with inclusion of background processes and experimental cuts would be indispensable.

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